

## Message Text

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ACTION PA-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 L-03 EB-11 SCI-06 COME-00 USIA-15

EPA-04 CEQ-02 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 RSR-01 /107 W

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P R 271912Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2171

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, SENV, FR, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN SPOKANE EXPOSITION

1. AMBASSADOR DELIVERED LETTER ON SPOKANE EXPOSITION  
TO FINANCE MINISTER GISCARD D'ESTAING JULY 27, OF  
WHICH FOLLOWING ARE SUBSTANTIVE PASSAGES:

2. "AS YOU KNOW, THE CITY OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, IS  
HOLDING A WORLD EXPOSITION NEXT YEAR ON THE THEME OF PROTECTION  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT. PRESIDENT NIXON IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED  
IN THE SUCCESS OF THE EXPOSITION AND ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE  
TO EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION.

3. "I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS  
WHICH HAVE LED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO CONCLUDE  
THAT IT COULD NOT AFFORD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
EXPOSITION WITH A FRENCH NATIONAL PAVILION. IN AN  
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EFFORT TO MEET THE FRENCH CONCERN, THE DIRECTORS OF

THE EXPOSITION HAVE PROPOSED THAT FRANCE SHARE SPACE WITH OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN A EUROPEAN PAVILION. THE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD NOT ALL NECESSARILY BE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AND THE PAVILION IN NO SENSE WOULD BE A PAVILION OF THE COMMUNITY TO WHICH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAD PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED OBJECTIONS. IN ADDITION, THE BUDGETARY COSTS OF THIS ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BE QUITE MODEST.

4. "I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS INCLUDED IN ITS BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 1974 AN ITEM COVERING THE COST OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN THE SPOKANE EXPOSITION AND THAT A FINAL DECISION RESTS WITH YOUR MINISTRY. I ALSO HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT IF THE FRENCH DECISION IS FAVORABLE, OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WILL FOLLOW, BUT THAT IF A FRENCH DECISION IS NEGATIVE THERE WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY BE NO EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION. THEREFORE, ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT, I STRONGLY URGE THAT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE GIVE ITS APPROVAL FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF THE FUNDS WHICH WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN THE EXPOSITION."

5. LETTER ALSO DESCRIBED BENEFITS WHICH FRENCH COULD EXPECT TO REALIZE FROM PARTICIPATION ALONG LINES OF PREVIOUS REPRESENTATIONS.

6. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, GISCARD SAID THAT THE PROBLEM HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN BROUGHT TO HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION. HE SAID HE WOULD GIVE IT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND HOPED TO HAVE AN ANSWER FOR US NEXT WEEK.  
IRWIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** n/a  
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